Kiana Wilson

Honors Physics

P. 4

Quest for Fusion Article

The topics of optics, light and fusion are all interrelated due to the fact that we discussed and learned about them in class. We learned that light travels at 300,000,000 m/s and visible light is sandwiched between infrared (longer wavelengths) and ultraviolet (shorter wavelengths). Also, we learned that total internal reflection can occur when light moves along a path from a medium with a higher index of refraction to one with a lower index of refraction.

There are many benefits to be had from this experiment even though it isn’t finished yet. The pros out way the cons in the end result. The pros of this experiment are the fact that if it was successful, it would keep the nations nuclear arms reliable without underground testing, it would reveal the hidden life of stars and would prepare the way for radically new kinds of power plants. The only con of this experiment is the cost, which is $140 million dollars a year. In my opinion it is worth the price because we are now going through a crisis of trying to find new things to use for energy. So if this experiment can make use of new types of power plants, then the money will soon be earned back. Also, if the fusion energy works, we’ll have a limitless supply of carbon-free energy that’s not geopolitically sensitive. In addition, this experiment will provide jobs and careers for people over the next years since it will take a while of experimentation to perfect everything involved.